

For More Information Contact:

Gary Cross

County Extension Agent - Agriculture and Natural Resources
Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service - Hale County
Phone: (806) 291-5267
Gary.Cross@ag.tamu.edu

Clyde Jenkins

USDA Rural Development
Phone: (806) 468-8600, extension 4
Clyde.Jenkins@tx.usda.gov

Rebekka Dudensing

Texas A&M AgriLife Extension Service
Phone: (979) 845-1719
rmdudensing@tamu.edu

*OR Take this Form to your
County Extension Office or Mail
to:*

*Texas A&M AgriLife Extension
Service - Hale County
225 Broadway St., Ste. 6
Plainview, TX 79072-8433*

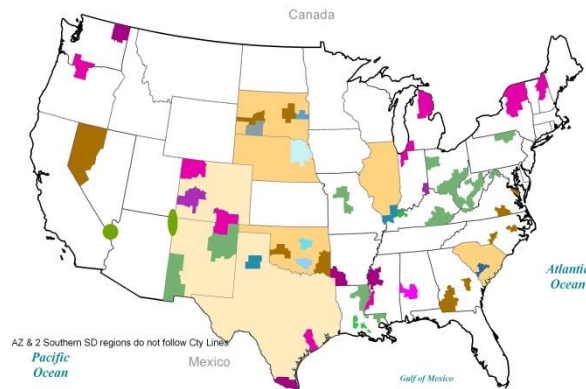
Name: _____
Address: _____

Email: _____
Phone: _____

SET Success Stories:

- The Texas LRGV region has partnered in surveying youth in local schools about their interest in becoming entrepreneurs within region after high school or college graduation. Programs to connect youth to local businesses and resources can be developed based on survey results.
- The Texas CWAM region is working to promote its energy sector by creating regional marketing materials and attending a large trade conference as a regional team.
- One New York region created a regional foods system.
- Many regions have found that the SET process supports their EDA-CEDS planning efforts.

South Plains is part of SET Phase IV and one of 55 regions in 27 states since 2010.



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Stronger Economics Together



Texas South Plains

“We are committed to looking at our common assets and barriers and to planning and implementing actions based on consensus.”

--South Plains application

About the Stronger Economies Together (SET) Program:

In many counties – especially counties with smaller populations – finding ways to create, attract, and retain jobs is a challenging process. Pursuing economic development as a single rural county in isolation from other nearby counties is oftentimes unproductive. In today’s global marketplace, economic development progress is more likely to be realized when rural and metro counties work together as a multi-county region to assess, design, and implement plans that build on their assets and comparative economic strengths. That’s what the *Stronger Economies Together* (SET) project is all about.

Purpose:

The purpose of SET is to strengthen the capacity of communities/counties in rural America to work together in developing and implementing an economic development blueprint for their multi-county region, one that strategically builds on the current and emerging economic strengths of that region.

What’s involved:

- 8 facilitated core planning modules
- Identification of regional assets and issues
- Region-specific data and training
- Technical Assistance - Up to 40 hours of assistance from Extension and USDA RD after the planning phase

Sponsors:



Committed to the future of rural communities.



Stronger Economies Together

Strategies for Building New Economic Opportunities

What will SET do for my region?

The SET program helps communities to identify their regional assets and goals and to follow through in implementing their action plans. At the close of the program, regional relationships will be strengthened, regions will be able to function interdependently on shared initiatives, and assets will be more effectively employed. Working at the regional level, rather than the county or city level, provides a stronger asset base and greater opportunities for economic synergies.

SET Benefits:

- Valuable training on the core building blocks for economic development.
- In-depth data that are tailored to the region, information that helps delineate the critical drivers of your economy.
- Tools that uncover local assets and resources to advance your region’s economic strategies and actions.
- Coaching and a limited amount of technical assistance.
- Opportunity to share information and gather ideas/insights from other SET regions across the nation.

Why should I participate in SET?

Individuals and organizations participating in SET will have a role in determining the future of their region. They will also strengthen regional relationships and gain skills that will enable them to better serve their communities as leaders and as economic developers.

When and where will training occur?

SET workshops will occur across the region, and will be scheduled to fit the needs of the participants.

What is the cost?

There is no cost either for individual team members or for the counties and partnering organizations to participate in SET. However, regions should be prepared to provide logistical support (e.g., facilities) for training sessions and provide their own travel.